

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO  
WESTERN DIVISION

IN RE: DePUY ORTHOPAEDICS, INC.  
ASR HIP IMPLANT PRODUCTS  
LIABILITY LITIGATION

MDL No. 1: 10-md-02197-JJH

**SHORT FORM COMPLAINT  
FOR DePUY ORTHOPAEDICS,  
INC. ASR HIP IMPLANT  
PRODUCTS LIABILITY  
LITIGATION**

**JURY TRIAL DEMAND**

STEVEN WHITECLOUD

Plaintiff(s),

Case No. 1:22-dp-20039-JJH

-against-

DePUY ORTHOPAEDICS, INC., DePUY  
INC., DEPUY INTERNATIONAL LIMITED,  
JOHNSON & JOHNSON, JOHNSON &  
JOHNSON SERVICES, INC.,  
JOHNSON & JOHNSON INTERNATIONAL,

Defendants

**ABBREVIATED SHORT FORM COMPLAINT FOR DePUY ORTHOPAEDICS,  
INC. ASR HIP IMPLANT PRODUCTS LIABILITY LITIGATION**

1. Plaintiff(s), STEVEN WHITECLOUD states and brings this civil action before the Court for the United States District Court for the Northern District of Ohio as a related action in the matter entitled IN RE: DePUY ORTHOPAEDICS, INC. ASR HIP

IMPLANT PRODUCTS LIABILITY LITIGATION, MDL No. 2197. Plaintiff is filing this short form complaint as permitted by Case Management Order No. 2 of this Court.

**ALLEGATIONS AS TO VENUE**

2. Venue of this case is appropriate in the United States District Court of State of Colorado - Colorado District Court. Plaintiff states that but for the Order permitting direct filing into the Northern District of Ohio pursuant to Case Management Order No. 2, Plaintiff would have filed in the United States District Court of the State of Colorado - Colorado District Court. Therefore, Plaintiff respectfully requests that at the time of transfer of this action back to the trial court for further proceedings that this case be transferred to the above referenced District Court.

3. Plaintiff STEVEN WHITECLOUD is a resident and citizen of GRAND JUNCTION, COLORADO and claims damages as set forth below. Plaintiff's Spouse \_\_\_\_\_, is a resident and citizen of \_\_\_\_\_, and claims damages as a result of loss of consortium. *[Cross out Spousal Claim if Not Applicable]*

4. Plaintiff was born on January 26, 1949.

5. Plaintiff is filing this case in a representative capacity as the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ having been duly appointed as the \_\_\_\_\_ by the \_\_\_\_\_ Court of \_\_\_\_\_. *[Cross out if Not Applicable]* A copy of the Letters of Administration for a wrongful death claim is annexed hereto if such letters are required for the commencement of such a claim by the Probate, Surrogate or other appropriate court of the jurisdiction of the decedent.

Plaintiff claims damages as a result of:

- injury to himself  
 injury to the person represented  
 wrongful death  
 survivorship action  
 economic loss  
 loss of services  
 loss of consortium

**ALLEGATIONS AS TO INJURIES**

6. Plaintiff was implanted with a DePuy ASR hip implant on his left hip on or about July 9, 2008, at the Grand Junction VA Medical Center, 2121 North Avenue, Grand Junction, CO 81501, by George Gromke, D.O.

7. On or about August 17, 2022 (date), Plaintiff suffered the following personal and economic injur(ies) as a result of the implantation with the ASR hip implant: severe pain and discomfort, increased metal levels in blood including cobalt and chromium; permanent injuries, emotional distress, disability, disfigurement; economic damages including medical and hospital expenses for revision surgery followed by monitoring, rehabilitation and pharmaceutical costs. As a result, Plaintiff has sustained and will sustain damages in an amount to be proven at trial.

8. Plaintiff had the left ASR hip implant explanted on August 17, 2022, at HonorHealth Deer Valley Medical Center, 19829 North 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85027 (medical center and address) by Dr. Vishal Ganesh or Plaintiff will be having the

~~ASR hip explanted on or about \_\_\_\_\_, or~~

~~Plaintiff has not yet scheduled an explantation of the ASR hip implant. [Cross out  
inapplicable sections]~~

9. Plaintiff(s) has suffered injuries as a result of implantation and explantation of the DePuy ASR hip implant manufactured by defendants as shall be fully set forth in Plaintiff's Fact Sheet and other responsive documents provided to the defendants and are incorporated by reference herein.

10. At the time of implantation with the ASR hip implant, the Plaintiff resided at 1328 Bluff Street, Delta, CO 81416.

11. The defendants by their actions or inactions, proximately caused Plaintiff's injuries.

12. The plaintiff could not have known that the injuries he suffered was as a result of a defect in the ASR hip implant until after the date the device was recalled from the market and the plaintiff came to learn of the recall.

13. The plaintiff could not have known that he was injured by excessive levels of chromium and cobalt until after the date he had his blood drawn and he was advised of the results of said bloodwork.

14. As a result of the injuries Plaintiff(s) sustained, he is entitled to recover compensatory damages for pain and suffering and emotional distress (*if applicable*) and for economic loss as well as punitive damages.

**ALLEGATIONS AS TO DEFENDANTS**  
**SPECIFIC ALLEGATIONS AND THEORIES OF RECOVERY**

15. The following claims and allegations are asserted by Plaintiff(s) and are herein adopted by reference:

- FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION  
(NEGLIGENCE);
- SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION  
(NEGLIGENCE PER SE);
- THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION  
(STRICT PRODUCTS LIABILITY-DEFECTIVE DESIGN)
- FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION  
(STRICT PRODUCTS LIABILITY-MANUFACTURING DEFECT);
- FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION  
(STRICT PRODUCTS LIABILITY-FAILURE TO WARN);
- SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION  
(BREACH OF EXPRESS WARRANTY);
- SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION  
(BREACH OF WARRANTY AS TO MERCHANTABILITY)
- EIGHTH CAUSE OF ACTION  
(BREACH OF IMPLIED WARRANTIES);
- NINTH CAUSE OF ACTION  
(FRAUDULENT MISREPRESENTATION);
- TENTH CAUSE OF ACTION  
(FRAUDULENT CONCEALMENT);
- ELEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION  
(NEGLIGENT MISREPRESENTATION);
- TWELFTH CAUSE OF ACTION  
(FRAUD AND DECEIT);
- THIRTEENTH CAUSE OF ACTION

(UNFAIR AND DECEPTIVE TRADE PRACTICES UNDER STATE LAW);

- FOURTEENTH CAUSE OF ACTION  
(MISREPRESENTATION BY OMISSION);
- FIFTEENTH CAUSE OF ACTION  
(CONSTRUCTIVE FRAUD);
- SIXTEENTH CAUSE OF ACTION  
(NEGLIGENT INFILCTION OF EMOTIONAL DISTRESS);
- SEVENTEENTH CAUSE OF ACTION  
(INTENTIONAL INFILCTION OF EMOTIONAL DISTRESS);
- EIGHTEENTH CAUSE OF ACTION  
(GROSS NEGLIGENCE/MALICE);
- NINETEENTH CAUSE OF ACTION  
(LOSS OF CONSORTIUM);
- TWENTIETH CAUSE OF ACTION  
(PUNITIVE DAMAGES)
- TWENTY-FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION  
(MEDICAL MONITORING)
- TWENTY-SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION  
(VIOLATION OF APPLICABLE STATE CONSUMER FRAUD STATUTE) – Colorado Consumer Fraud Act (C.R.S. Section 6-1-101 et. seq.)
- TWENTY-THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION  
(RESTITUTION OF ALL PURCHASE COSTS AND DISGORGEMENT OF ALL PROFITS FROM MONIES THAT PLAINTIFF INCURRED IN PURCHASE OF THE HIP IMPLANT)

PLAINTIFF(S) ASSERT(S) THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL STATE CAUSES OF ACTION:

NONE AT THIS TIME.

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## **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff(s) pray for judgment against Defendants as follows:

1. For compensatory damages requested and according to proof;
  2. For punitive or exemplary damages against Defendants;
  3. For all applicable statutory damages of the state whose laws will govern this action;
  4. For medical monitoring, whether denominated as damages or in the form of equitable relief;
  5. For an award of attorneys' fees and costs;
  6. For prejudgment interest and the costs of suit; and
  7. For such other and further relief as this Court may deem just and proper;

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**JURY DEMAND**

Plaintiff(s) hereby demand a trial by jury as to all claims in this action.

Respectfully submitted  
Counsel for Plaintiff(s) STEVEN WHITECLOUD

MORRIS LAW FIRM

Date: December 16, 2022

By: /s/ James A. Morris

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